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***Says Dominican Red
Influence Overrated***

To the Editor: The efficient and well-staffed teams of CIA informers in the Dominican Republic have found some Communists among the rebels. They have come up with only a handful, less than a hundred, in a population of almost 3½ million people in the little nation, but even that number suffices to permit Mr. Rusk to sweep the real issues under the rug.

The standard American tactic of ignoring the basic forces of conflict—the struggle of downtrodden peoples everywhere for freedom and relief from poverty and suffering—and concentrating on the Communist menace, has given communism a prestige that it could not win by its own arrogance.

European countries such as the Scandinavian countries, Italy and France, have millions of Communists among their electorate and representation in their legislative assemblies.

These countries have fought communism by proposing and putting through better solutions to national problems than the Communists could come up with.

It is impossible to fight an idea with military might. It has to be fought with a better idea.

JOSEPHINE GOMON